

REMARKS

Claims 1-32 are pending.

The Examiner has rejected Claims 1-32 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Davenport (U.S. Pub. No. 2003/0033236). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 recites “generating an optimal solution with the validated bids, **the optimal solution having an optimal quantity** and an optimal unit price from at least one supplier.” The portions of Davenport cited by Examiner (Fig 3, [0036], and [0040]) do not disclose an optimal solution having an optimal quantity. As such, Claim 1 is believed to be allowable.

Claims 2-15 depend from Claim 1 and are believed to be allowable for the same reasons described above.

As with Claim 1, Claim 16 recites “the optimal solution having an optimal quantity” and is therefore also believed to be allowable.

Claim 17 recites “receiving at least one bid from a supplier, the bid having a unit price and a quantity” and “inputting a value for one of a new unit price and a new quantity.” The portions of Davenport cited by Examiner (Fig 1, [0036], and [0080]) do not disclose these limitations. As such, Claim 17 is believed to be allowable.

Claims 18-20 depend from Claim 17 and are believed to be allowable for the same reasons described above.

As with Claim 1, Claim 21 recites “the optimal solution having an optimal quantity” and is therefore also believed to be allowable.

Claims 22-26 depend from Claim 21 and are believed to be allowable for the same reasons described above.


As with Claim 1, Claim 27 recites “the optimal solution having an optimal quantity” and is therefore also believed to be allowable.

Claims 28-32 depend from Claim 27 and are believed to be allowable for the same reasons described above.

Reconsideration of the application and allowance of all claims are respectfully requested based on the preceding remarks. If at any time the Examiner believes that an interview would be helpful, please contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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